

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Universal Friction (Formerly: Raymark Industries, Inc.)

**123 East Stiegel Street
Manheim, PA 17545
Congressional District 17
EPA ID #: PAD003015328
Latest Update 06/28/2005**

Current Progress at the Site

Since 1989, Raymark has been in and out of bankruptcy. In 1996, while temporarily out of bankruptcy, Raymark was ordered by the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court to close their Raymark Industries Landfill (a RCRA regulated hazardous waste landfill), according to a PADEP-approved Closure Plan and also conduct the post-closure monitoring, maintenance and sampling activities required under the Closure Plan. In 1997, Raymark made significant strides toward the closure of the landfill. In January 1998, Raymark submitted a closure certification in which PADEP found some deficiencies. In March 1998, Raymark declared Chapter 11 Bankruptcy and discontinued the closure and groundwater monitoring activities. During inspections in 1995 and 1998, the following environmental concerns were observed by PADEP staff: 1) the landfill cap had not been completed, 2) erosion was compromising the cap near well no.3, and 3) ponding water along a drainage channel.

The PADEP Waste Management Program is overseeing the closure of this landfill. They negotiated with the court-appointed bankruptcy Trustee for continuing closure activities after Raymark declared bankruptcy. EPA assisted in this effort by distributing funds from Raymark's closure/post-closure trust fund for the costs incurred during closure and capping work. The trust fund was set up by Raymark in 1982, with EPA named as the party permitted to authorize distribution of monies. Such trust funds are required under RCRA, to assure that proper closure and groundwater monitoring will be completed in cases of bankruptcy.

A environmental site investigation for the Raymark property, other than the RCRA-regulated landfill, was discussed in a meeting between Raymark, Manheim Boro and PADEP in early 1998. An agreement was reached that the closure of these other areas would take place under the Act 2 program.

The Phoenix Group

In December 2000, most of the Raymark property was purchased by Phoenix Group, who plans to clean-up the site and re-develop it for industrial use. A Consent Order and Agreement was signed by Phoenix Group and PADEP on January 25th, 2001. Through this Consent Order,

Phoenix Group agreed to implement the post-closure plan for the RCRA-regulated landfill and achieve an Act 2 standard, or combination of standards, for most of the remainder of the property. The landfill was certified closed by PADEP on December 20, 2000. Periodic groundwater monitoring is continuing. Final Reports under the Act 2 Program were submitted to PADEP in January 2003, for the Lower Mill Area and Upper Mill Area. On April 11, 2003, PADEP approved the Report on the Lower Mill Area.

Lower Mill Landfill

The 2001 Consent Order covered the entire Raymark property, except for the area known as the "Lower Mill Landfill." The Lower Mill Landfill is a pre-RCRA disposal site, and therefore not regulated under the PADEP RCRA program. Ownership of the Lower Mill Landfill was retained by Raymark and is being handled via the Bankruptcy Court-appointed Trustee.

The Lower Mill Landfill consists of lagoons that received soil-like scrubber sludge from the mill dust collectors. The lagoon accepted lead and asbestos waste from 1962 to 1973. At various times the material that accumulated in the lagoons was excavated, loaded onto railroad cars and taken to lead smelters for recycling.

In 2002, it was decided that the PA HSCA program will close the Lower Mill Landfill with a cap and stream erosion control. HSCA has estimated that the project will be completed by the end of 2005. At this time capping activities have been completed. Additional groundwater sampling is anticipated in the fall of 2005. Future groundwater monitoring will continue on a regular basis.

Site Description

Historically, this site was part of the Raybestos-Manhattan Inc. plant operations that manufactured friction product material including automotive brake linings, clutch facings and other specialized friction products since 1908. Onsite waste disposal occurred in several areas and is assumed to be the source of groundwater contamination.

There were eight Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) areas on the site determined to have possibly impacted the environment. These units areas include 1) Raymark Industries Landfill (a RCRA-regulated hazardous waste landfill), 2) Former Hazardous Waste Landfill (Lower Mill Landfill which is pre-RCRA), 3) North Hazel Street Quarry (Gibbles Quarry, not on Raymark's property), 4) Drum Storage Area, 5-7) Hazardous Waste Drum Holding Areas, and 8) Asbestos/lead Slurry Transfer Stations.

The RCRA-regulated landfill is an unlined earthen landfill with few engineering controls. It operated from 1972 until 1989, and received and estimated 9,663 tons of asbestos and lead wastes each year. Some stormwater run-off controls and a 1-inch asphalt cover were added after 1977 to help reduce the environmental impact of the landfill. Groundwater contamination, attributable to the landfill was found in 1983. Between 1983 and 1989, Raymark monitored the groundwater for lead, sulfate and bicarbonate - groundwater quality parameters that were used as indicators of the impact of the landfill on groundwater. Between 1989 and 1998, groundwater monitoring was sporadic due to bankruptcy actions. In 1998, Raymark notified PADEP that

Raymark Industries filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and, therefore, groundwater monitoring would be discontinued. Capping of the landfill was completed by Phoenix group, under the direction of PADEP. Groundwater monitoring responsibility has been taken over by Phoenix Group.

Five of the seven other storage/disposal on the site have been investigated for releases and impacts to the environment under the Pennsylvania Land Recycling Program (Act 2). The other two areas, (Lower Mill Landfill and North Hazel Street Quarry) are believed to be unlined and used for disposal of asbestos and lead wastes. These areas will be evaluated under the PADEP HSCA program.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at the Raymark facility are being conducted as a joint effort of EPA and PADEP, with PADEP taking the lead. The investigation and any necessary clean up activities are being implemented in accordance with 1) the January 25, 2001 Consent Order and Ageement with Phoenix Group (for the Raymark Industries Landfill), 2) the Pennsylvania Land Recycling Program (Act 2) (for other areas at the site), 3) The Pennsylvania HSCA program (for the Lower Mill Landfill and Gibbles Quarry, and 4) Federal corrective action authorities (for releases from SWMUs).

Contaminants

The main contaminants of concern are lead and asbestos.

Community Interaction

The Manheim Boro has been a significant partner since the out-set of the redevelopment strategy. The public has been notified of closure plans, bankruptcy proceedings and Act 2 remediation activities.

Institutional Controls

The site is to be used for non-residential purposes only. The landfill areas will not be re-used, to ensure integrity of the caps. Groundwater under the site will not be used for potable purposes.

Government Contacts

EPA Project Manager
Ms. Linda Matyskiela
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA, 19103-2029
Phone: (215) 814-3420
Email: matyskiela.linda@epa.gov

Ms. Linda Houseal
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
South Central Regional Office
909 Elmerton Ave.
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200
Phone: (717) 705-4706
Email: lhuseal@state.pa.us

For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm